

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the study

*Uncle Toms Cabin* is a novel written by Harriet Beecher Stowe, he was born in Conecticut, as the youngest member of six siblings, his father was a priest. America at the time of the stowe was very different from America today, at that time there were still many differences, and the most important issue was about slavery, in the south slavery was something important for the national economy, men, holding power while women were asked to obey.

Stowe's writings were mostly articles and short letters he began writing his first novel when he learned about cruelty and after reading the runaway slave laws which obliged northern states to send back slaves who had fled to the south, this novel was very popular in his era, Even President Lincoln said the novel was the cause of the American Civil War in 1861-1865.

Saptanto and Dewi (2020) say that the process of creating a work is certainlybased on the background of social criticism about the political issues that were happening at the time the work was created. Every work of art must be influenced by the conditions at which it was created, such as Harriet Beecer Stowe, he made a novel about slavery because of his anxiety about slavery that occurred at that time.

Susilowati (2013) say author is a member of the community, he lives and relates to other people in his society. it is not surprising if there is irrelation and interaction between the author and the community. It is explained that the author is a member of society, it indicates that the writer and society are always connected, between his work and his community, in this novel the author writes about the conditions of society in America 18 century.

*Uncle Toms Cabin* tells the story of Tom who is described as a dignified holy slave, when he was taken by boat in New Orleans, Tom saved a girl named Eva, then Eva's father bought it and felt grateful because Tom had saved the lives of his daughter, Eva and Tom being a good friend, Eva is getting weaker and her health begins to decrease rapidly, Eva finally dies, when her death Eva asks her father to release all the slaves in her house, she makes plans to free all her slaves but Eva father is killed by someone.

Simon Legree took over all of his slaves, Legree was a cruel and not humanitarian man, he always tortured all of his slaves and forced them to work forcefully if his slaves disobeyed his orders then he would be tortured, at one time Tom made trouble he was beaten to death, because he refused to tell the whereabouts of slaves who had fled, Tom maintained his Christianity because Tom was indeed a slave who obeyed his religion.

Sociology of literature is a literary phenomenon related to social aspects, sociology of literature is an approach or way of reading to understand

literature which is a field of study. According Swingewood (1972) Explaining that the limits of sociology are as a science, literary boundaries, after he learned about sociology then he described the differences between sociology and literature Swingewood (1972) describes that sociology is a scientific and objective study of humans in society, the study of institutions and processes social, in this study sociology is a method that discusses how people can survive. They say that social stratification is the limit of sociology as a science, and after he learned about sociology he have describe the difference between sociology and literature, he explain that sociology discuss about how people can survive in society.

Sukanto (1970) “sociology is a science that focuses on general aspects of society and seeks to obtain general patterns of community life”. Soerjono said that in social life there are generally patterns of community life, unnoticed by the community can be classified in various type: upper, middle and lower classes.

Social Stratification which means a layered system in society. The term stratification comes according to strata (plural: strata) which means layers, social stratification is the distinction of population or society into classes in stages. As long as there is something in the community that can make the community superior to other communities, and every community must have something superior, then it can be the basis for a layer system in the community. Something that is valued in the form of something of economic value, land, power, knowledge.

Sorokin (1957) said layered system is a permanent and common characteristic in every society that lives regularly". Anyone who has something of value in very large numbers, a situation not everyone can do so even only a few people who can, are considered by high-ranking society or placed in the upper layers of society; and those who have little or no value, in the view of the people, have a low position or place in the lower layers of society. Differences in human position in the community directly refers to differences in the distribution of rights and obligations, responsibilities of social values and differences in influence between members of the community.

Basically, the strata difference in society was very striking, especially in America, black people are considered as the lower class while white people are considered as the upper class, they assume that people who have higher caste white skin color are higher compared to blacks, many blacks are slaves, even traded, in the current era caste differences are almost non-existent, but unwittingly we often encounter societies that still consider blacks to be lower than white skin.

Setting is the condition where an event occurs. Setting consists of place, time and atmosphere, time is the time behind the occurrence of an event such as year, hour, and day, place is the place of occurrence of an event such as at home, in a park, etc. the atmosphere is the atmosphere that appears in an event such as sad, happy, tense, etc.

Santosa (2008) and Wiyanto (2002) the setting includes three dimensions, namely: (a) the setting of the place (where the story takes place) does not stand alone, usually supported by setting the time, for example, place of Java, what year, outside the home; (b) time settings (the time of day, morning, evening, or night contained in the drama narrated); (c) setting of events (when historical epochs / periods occur in a story in a drama); and (d) atmosphere settings (war / tension, emotion, independence / joy and others). All settings in staging the drama can be supported and depicted with the stage, lighting and sound. In his explanation There have many setting, for example santoso and wiryanti say that setting have a three dimension like setting place, time setting, event setting and athmosphere.

In this discussion the writer uses setting to analyze social stratification. The social strata in the uncle's cabin can be seen from the residence of the characters, social class is divided into 3: upper, middle, and lower classes.

## **1.2. Research Problem of the study**

1.2.1. Does the social stratification in novel *Uncle Tom's cabin* use setting?

1..2.2. What are the social condition in novel *uncle Toms cabin* ?

1.2.3. What are the comparisons of social stratification between *Uncle Tom's cabin* novel and America in 18<sup>th</sup> era?

### **1.3. Purpose of the study**

1.3.1. To know whether the social stratification in novel *Uncle Tom's cabin* using setting

1.3.2. To know the social condition in novel *Uncle Tom's cabin*.

1.3.3. To know the comparison of social stratification between *Uncle Toms cabin* and America in the same era.

### **1.4. Benefit of Study**

#### **1. Theory Benefits**

The result of the study hopefully can be used fully to confirm that the social stratification and social economy in the novel *Uncle Tom's cabin*. In the novel we can know that the difference between employee and the slave, many slaves are treated inhumanely in the novel, in this study the writer use literary sociology (social stratification), to see how social conditions in the novel.

#### **2. Practical Benefits**

For the writer of this research will give information to the reader about the sociology of literature (social stratification), in this study the writer discuss the specific setting of the house in this novel, the writer distinguish some living conditions belonging to the upper and lower classes, the writer also find out how the social and economic conditions in the novel, in this study the writer also compared the

novel *uncle Toms cabin* and America in the same era, whether the conditions in the novel and in real life experience differences or not, whether this novel can describe the living conditions of American society in that era or not. For other reseacher, the research is expect to be reference or reference material in the next study.